

## I CLAIM:

1           1.           A nail clipping assembly including a pair of nail  
2           clippers for clipping a finger or toe nail, said nail  
3           clippers having an upper arm and a lower arm, each arm  
4           having a blade end and a joined end and said upper and  
5           lower arms being joined at their joined ends and said  
6           upper arm having an upper blade at its blade end and  
7           said lower arm having a lower blade at its blade end,  
8           said upper and lower blades being aligned to meet to  
9           form a cutting line and an operating lever held to said  
10          pair of nail clippers so that the depression of said  
11          operating lever causes said upper blade to move  
12          downwardly and meet said lower blade to create a  
13          cutting action wherein the improvement comprises:

14               a light source held near said upper and lower  
15          blades and positioned so that when a finger is moved so  
16          that an extending nail portion at a distal end of the  
17          finger moves between said upper blade and said lower  
18          blade, said light source will illuminate at least that  
19          portion of the interior of said finger under its nail  
20          so that an intersection between the extending portion  
21          of the nail and the finger is clearly visible; and

22 means for energizing said light source whereby a  
23 fingernail may be safely clipped as a result of the  
24 illumination of the intersection between the nail and  
25 the finger.

2. The nail clipping assembly of claim 1 wherein said  
light source is positioned below said lower blade.

1 3. The nail clipping assembly of claim 2 wherein said  
2 pair of nail clippers is held in a holder, said holder  
3 having a recess for holding said pair of nail clippers  
4 so that the upper and lower blades thereof may be moved  
5 adjacent the end of a subject's finger end and over a  
6 subject's extending nail and said holder having a hand  
7 graspable handle and a cutting end and said holder  
8 further supporting said light source at its cutting end  
9 and said holder having a receptacle for holding means  
10 for energizing said at least one light source and said  
11 light source being positioned in sufficient proximity  
12 to the subject's finger to illuminate the interior of  
13 the finger at an area where the subject's nail extends  
14 outwardly from the subject's finger.

4. The nail clipping assembly of claim 3 wherein said holder has a recess along a top edge thereof for supporting said pair of nail clippers.

- 1 5. The nail clipping assembly of claim 3 wherein said  
2 light source comprises a bulb with an outer tip and  
3 said bulb is held so that its tip is within at least  
4 about one-eighth of an inch from a finger tip portion  
5 of the subject's's finger.

6. The nail clipping assembly of claim 5 wherein said tip is aimed outwardly away from the cutting end of said holder.

7. The nail clipping assembly of claim 1 wherein said light source is an incandescent bulb.

- 1 8. A nail clipping assembly including a pair of nail  
2 clippers for clipping a finger or toe nail, said nail  
3 clippers having an upper arm and a lower arm, each arm  
4 having a blade end and a joined end and said upper and  
5 lower arms being joined at their joined ends and said  
6 upper arm having an upper blade at its blade end and

7        said lower arm having a lower blade at its blade end,  
8        said upper and lower blades being aligned to meet to  
9        form a cutting line and an operating lever held to said  
10       pair of nail clippers so that the depression of said  
11       operating lever causes said upper blade to move  
12       downwardly and meet said lower blade to create a  
13       cutting action wherein the improvement comprises:

14                a holder having a hand graspable portion, a top  
15       portion including a nail clipper holding area, a  
16       bottom, a back and a cutting end, said holder  
17       supporting a light source at its cutting end and said  
18       holder having a pair of fingernail guides extending  
19       forwardly with respect to said cutting line and  
20       positioned so that a bottom edge of each fingernail  
21       guide is horizontally aligned between a lowermost  
22       portion of said upper blade and an uppermost portion of  
23       the lower blade when said nail clippers are oriented  
24       horizontally whereby a subject's fingernail is guided  
25       into a space between said upper and lower blades.

9.        The nail clipping assembly of claim 8 wherein said  
         fingernail guides are horizontally spaced to expose a  
         majority of the subject's fingernail at a line where

the fingernail extends outwardly from the subject's finger.

1        10.        The nail clipping assembly of claim 8 wherein said  
2        nail clipper holding area is a recess which extends  
3        upwardly from a floor to cover sides of said nail  
4        clipper whereby the recess functions as a nail clipping  
5        holder.

1        11.        An ergonomic handle for comfortably supporting a  
2        nail clipper of the type having an upper arm and a  
3        lower arm, each arm having a blade end and a joined end  
4        and said upper and lower arms being joined at their  
5        joined ends and said upper arm having an upper blade at  
6        its blade end and said lower arm having a lower blade  
7        at its blade end, said upper and lower blades being  
8        aligned to meet to form a cutting line and an operating  
9        lever held to said pair of nail clippers so that the  
10       depression of said operating lever causes said upper  
11       blade to move downwardly and meet said lower blade to  
12       create a cutting action, said handle comprising:

13                a hand graspable handle of sufficient girth and  
14       length to permit a user's hand to surround the

15 graspable handle so that the user's palm is on a first  
16 side of the handle and a users's fingers grasp the  
17 opposite side and the user's thumb extends over a top  
18 edge of the hand graspable handle; and

19 a nail clipper recess formed in said top edge and  
20 said nail clipper recess being shaped to surround sides  
21 of a pair of nail clippers, and having a bottom upon  
22 which a pair of nail clippers can rest and a back end  
23 portion to prevent the rearward movement of the pair of  
24 nail clippers with respect to said handle and the nail  
25 clipper recess having an open front end to permit a  
26 user to insert a fingernail in a clipping portion of  
27 said pair of nail clippers whereby a pair of nail  
28 clippers can be easily supported by a user's hand  
29 during a nail clipping operation.

1 12. The ergonomic handle of claim 11 wherein said hand  
2 graspable handle has a pair of opposed fingernail  
3 guides extending inwardly at said open front end and  
4 positioned so that when a pair of nail clippers is  
5 inserted in said nail clipper recess the opposed  
6 fingernail guides extend beyond a front edge of said  
7 pair of nail clippers and a bottom edge of each of said

8           opposed fingernail guides is horizontally aligned  
9           between a lowermost portion of said upper blade and an  
10          uppermost portion of said lower blade of said pair of  
11          nail clippers.

13.          The ergonomic handle of claim 11 wherein said nail  
clipper recess has an upwardly extending tab for  
passing through a hole in a rear end of said pair of  
nail clippers.

14.          The ergonomic handle of claim 11 wherein said hand  
graspable handle curves upwardly toward its front end.